GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3477
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
SALE OF BANNED MEDICINES
KAILASH MEGHWAL

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several foreign companies are still selling medicines in India which are banned in their own countries and people are purchasing medicines which are dangerous in the name of life saving drugs;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS(SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. It is not a fact that some of the drugs and medicines, which have been banned in the other country, are still being used in the country. The drugs and medicines marketed in the country are examined through an expert Committee on a continuous basis to weed out harmful/irrational drugs.Certain drugs and formulations withdrawn in some countries at times, continue to be marketed in other countries because the decision to do so is based on risk assessment process which is influenced by a number of factors such as the disease pattern in a country, the varying reactions of certain ethnic group in a givenpopulation to the drug, availability of safer sub statutes as well as the cost factor involved in the treatment of a particular disease etc.